SERVING THE PUBLIC SINCE 1878 • WINNER OF 19 PULITZER PRIZES

stl TODAY

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

FRIDAY • 01.31.2020 • $2.50

IMPEACHMENT TRIAL

WITNESSES VS. ACQUITTAL

TRIAL ON BRINK OF ENDING IF GOP REJECTS NEW DEPOSITIONS

'You cannot be acquitted if you don't have a trial. You don't have a trial if you don't have witnesses and documentations.'

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

BY MIKE DEBONIS, SEUNG MIN KIM AND DAVID A. FAHRENTHOLD
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The impeachment trial of President Donald Trump is headed for a pivotal vote Friday that will determine whether the Senate hears from witnesses over allegations that the president pressured Ukraine to launch investigations for his own political benefit.

But Senate Republicans are increasingly confident no new testimony will be heard and they can start on a sprint toward Trump's acquittal.

On Thursday, as the Senate concluded another daylong question-and-answer session with House

Please see **TRUMP,** Page A19

'Even if you take everything else that is levied on him by others ... I don't see that it rises to the level of being an impeachable offense.'

Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa

AUF WIEDERSEHEN

Schneithorst's owners auction remnants of landmark German restaurant

J.B. FORBES, JFORBES@POST-DISPATCH.COM

Freddie Williams, the former cook at Schneithorst's, greets Joan Otis, who worked as a waitress there for 39 years, on Thursday at the shuttered German restaurant in Ladue. The last pieces of the local institution were on display Thursday for an online auction.

BY ERIN HEFFERNAN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

LADUE — Joyce Wallace knew she wanted a Schneithorst's menu before the place was gone for good.

Wallace, of Kirkwood, rallied a group of friends to the beloved, but now shuttered German restaurant in Ladue as the last pieces of the place were on display Thursday for an online auction.

Offerings set out in rows tagged with yellow stickers ranged from the ornate — grand velvet chairs, an upside-down goose fountain and a bench with Bavarian carvings — to the mundane, such as paper towel dispensers and mops.

The business at 1600 South Lindbergh Boulevard was built in 1956 by Arthur Schneithorst Jr. and was a local institution before its last day of business on Christmas Eve.

Owner Jim Schneithorst Jr. plans to redevelop the property, tearing down the building with its distinctive German facade and clock tower to extend nearby retail shops and office space.

But for longtime customers like Wallace, the goal Thursday was to get a keepsake of the restaurant she's been visiting for decades. The auction aimed to

Please see **AUCTION,** Page A4

TRIAL TESTIMONY

Monsanto limited weedkiller's testing on own plots

BY JOHNATHAN HETTINGER
Midwest Center for Investigative Reporting

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. — In February 2015, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considering whether to approve a new Monsanto weedkiller anticipated to be sprayed on tens of millions of acres of crops, many researchers wanted to see how the herbicide would work in the field.

University researchers had been requesting the tests in order to ease farmers' fears about crop damage, and Monsanto scientists wanted to conduct tests to help draft recommendations for farmers who would use the pesticide.

But knowing federal regulators were paying attention to the new weedkiller's potential to contaminate other fields, the company decided to "pull back" on testing to allow dicamba to have a "clean slate," according to an email from Dr. Tina Bhakta, who, in her role as global chemistry expansion lead for Monsanto, was responsible for obtaining EPA registration for the weedkiller.

The email was included in Bhakta's video testimony Thursday in U.S. District Court in Cape

Please see **MONSANTO,** Page A4

What happens after Brexit Day? Nothing

BY WILLIAM BOOTH AND KARLA ADAM
The Washington Post

LONDON — Brexit Day, or "Exit Day" as Prime Minister Boris Johnson would have it, is nearly upon us. On Friday, Britain will officially leave the European Union, after more than four decades with the closest of ties.

What will change? Nothing, actually. At least, at first.

For the rest of 2020, free trade and free movement between the United Kingdom and the EU will continue. Britain will still contribute to the EU budget. And it will still have to abide by EU laws — even though British members of the European Parliament will have packed their bags and lost their say in how those laws are determined.

The biggest jolt to British politics in a generation won't be felt by

Please see **BREXIT,** Page A19

Johnson
Vows that Britain will reclaim its 'spectacular maritime wealth'

Cure Violence rollout schedule a bit hazy

Echols
Public health director says program will start within 'the first half of the year'

BY RACHEL RICE
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ST. LOUIS — The city's much-anticipated anti-crime program called Cure Violence may get a slower start than city officials initially projected, mostly, they say, because they want it to succeed.

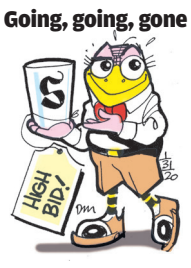
The city's Department of Public Health will oversee the program. Director Fredrick Echols said Cure Violence will start its work within "the first half of the year" but declined to be more specific. He said he didn't want to set the program up to fail with too quick a launch. City officials said last year that the program would begin this spring.

Officials also said at the time that they hoped to open program centers in three neighborhoods burdened by violence. The city now anticipates launching one pilot center in the Wells-Goodfellow

Please see **VIOLENCE,** Page A4

TODAY
43°/32°
MOSTLY CLOUDY
TOMORROW
46°/37°
MOSTLY CLOUDY
WEATHER
B10

Going, going, gone



POST-DISPATCH WEATHERBIRD ®

Craft Alliance will move 2 miles east • **A2**
County to hike $15 minimum wage • **A4**
Mantovani may run for county exec • **A5**
Steen to play in 1,000th NHL game • **B1**

news+
Experience membership and learn more at STLtoday.com/members

1 M
0 09189 21100 9 DAY
Vol. 142, No. 31 ©2020